

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 BELIZE 00298 300121Z
ACTION SCS-06

INFO OCT-01 ARA-14 ISO-00 SSO-00 H-02 /023 W
-----031815 301109Z /13

R 292155Z MAR 78
FM AMCONSUL BELIZE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6236
AMCONSUL MERIDA IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS BELIZE 0298

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: CASC (SMITH, LECAIN W.)
SUBJECT: W/W: LECAIN W. SMITH

REF: STATE 078461

1. NEITHER BELIZE CUSTOMS OFFICIALS NOR "COXWAIN"
(SENIOR BOATMAN FOR GOB VESSELS) HAS ANY KNOWLEDGE
OF LECAIN SMITH, YACHT MERIAH IV, NOR SALVAGE VESSEL
NORTH STAR. COXWAIN RECALLS ONLY THAT HE HAD MID-
MARCH QUERY FROM FISHING COOPERATIVE ON AMBERGRIS CAY
AS TO WHETHER HE HAD RECEIVED DISTRESS CALL FROM
BOAT IN TROUBLE IN COZUMEL. FISHING COOPERATIVE
TOLD HIM AT THAT TIME THAT ITS BOATS WOULD TAKE
CARE OF RESCUE, BUT OUR CHECK WITH COOPERATIVE
INDICATES THAT HELP WAS SENT FROM CHETUMEL,
QUINTANA ROO, MEXICO. COOPERATIVE DOES NOT KNOW OF
VESSEL NORTH STAR.

2. LOCAL SHIPPING AGENCY BELIEVES SALVAGE VESSEL
IN QUESTION MAY BE OCEAN-GOING TUG NORZEE SENT TO
BELIZE FROM JAMAICA TO ATTEMPT FREE GREEK FREIGHTER
SARBO, WHICH WENT AGROUND OFF LIGHTHOUSE REEF ON
MARCH 9. SMITH CONCEIVABLY COULD HAVE LEARNED OF
NORDZEE'S PRESENCE IN AREA AND TRIED TO HAVE HER
SENT NORTH TO FREE MERIAH IV, BUT SHIPPING AGENCY
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KNOWS OF NO SUCH ATTEMPT. ACCORDING SHIPPING AGENCY,
NORDZEE DEPARTED FOR JAMAICA MARCH 21 AFTER HER
EFFORTS RELEASE GREEK VESSEL FROM REEF PROVED
SUCCESSFUL.

3. CONGEN WILL REPORT ANY FURTHER INFORMATION OR
DEVELOPMENTS.

WALSH

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NNN

Message Attributes

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TAGS: CASC, (SMITH, LECAIN W)
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